

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): A public transportation vehicle for transporting passengers comprising:

an interior of a public transportation vehicle for accommodating passengers to be transported; and

blast-resistant protection means arranged in the interior of the vehicle for confining an explosive blast and protecting at least some of the passengers, said blast-resistant protection means comprising:

an array of partition means arranged in the interior of the vehicle to subdivide the interior into a plurality of interconnected subspaces for substantially confining an explosive blast to at least one subspace for protecting the passengers situated in the remaining subspaces, the array of partition means comprising at least six spaced-apart blast-resistant panels, fixedly attached to and extending inwardly from inner surfaces of the vehicle body and positioned within the interior of the vehicle for separating groupings of passengers from each other, each panel comprises a transparent portion, wherein at least the transparent portion is provided with a plurality of apertures to attenuate blast pressure in the subspace wherein the blast occurs while air pressure rise in the remaining subspaces is within a limit avoiding injury of persons

located therein and provide protection against flying objects in the subspaces not directly open to the source of the explosive blast.

Claim 9 (cancelled) :

Claim 10 (currently amended) : A vehicle according to claim 9 8, wherein at least a part of the panels panel is made of transparent polycarbonate.

Claim 11 (currently amended) : A vehicle according to claim 9 or 10, wherein at least a part of the panels panel is made of aramide fibers.

Claim 12 (previously presented) : A vehicle according to claim 8, wherein the public transportation vehicle is a bus.

Claim 13 (currently amended) : A method for confining an explosive blast of a public transportation vehicle comprising:

- a) providing a public transportation vehicle having an interior space for accommodating passengers;
- b) locating at least six blast-resistant panels in the interior of the vehicle in a spaced-apart manner so as to subdivide the interior into a plurality of interconnected subspaces for substantially confining an explosive blast to at least one subspace for protecting passengers situated in the remaining subspaces; and
- c) anchoring the panels to an adjacent structure in the interior of the vehicle wherein each panel comprises a transparent portion, wherein at least the transparent portion is provided with a plurality of apertures to attenuate blast

pressure in the subspace wherein the blast occurs while air pressure rise in the remaining subspaces is within a limit avoiding injury of persons located therein and provide protection against flying objects in the subspaces not directly open to the source of the explosive blast.

Claim 14 (new): A vehicle according to claim 8, wherein each panel further comprises a reinforced portion.